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HEROES TO ORDER.

“ I want a hero : an uncommon want
Where every year and month sends forth a new one,
Till, after cloying the gazettes with cant,
The age discovers he is not the true one ;
Of such as these I should not care to vaunt ! ”

—*Don Juan, Canto I.*

THE last half of the present century has developed an extraordinary mania for heroes and hero worship, a strange and incongruous contradiction to the spirit of the age, which runs rather in vulgar sluices than in chivalric paths, and where gods are made in the image of the Midas, whom Ovid calls the *Berecynthius heros*. It was Burke who said, “ The age of chivalry is gone ; that of sophisters, economists, and calculators has succeeded.” Wherefore, then, these heroes, and wherefore this hero worship ? The answer is plain. Governments are seeking colonial expansion. In order to lend a show of reason to encroachments upon the rights of others, it is found necessary to create automatons, and clothe them in the mantle either of prophet or priest, and send them forth as pioneers of a policy hidden under the canting and hypocritical pretext of humanity—which satisfies the most, and even electrifies the unreasoning and irresponsible mob, composed mainly, as General Gordon has said, of “ flunkies and sham heroes, and those who delight to grovel.” Of such as these are our heroes made, and of such is our hero worship—heroes not born as poets and warriors are, but made to order by the hand of selfish government.

There is a lesson to be read in this regard in the reply of the savage King of the Zulu Land to Her Britannic Majesty’s Governor-General at Cape Town. “ Go tell your masters,” said the proud Cetawayo, “ that I know you ; first you send the missionary, then you send the consul to look after the missionary, then the army to look after the consul, and the army—turns out the king.”

Cetawayo's appreciation of modern European diplomacy was sincere and just ; but he could scarcely be expected to understand that the European stock of heroes was manufactured and maintained in *quasi modo*.

The mantle of the hero worn by General Gordon has fallen upon the shoulders of a successor. Emin Pacha has passed into the heroic. It is told that he is in imminent peril, that he is surrounded by blood-thirsty savages, and that if he is not relieved he will die. The story adroitly published is a web with which to attract the world's attention, and first of all the flunkies and the grovelers.

Great Britain wants a hero and has made him to order. His name is Emin Pacha. Great Britain has been justly called a "land grabber," and, true to this policy, rather than to the specious pretext of humanity, she is ever on the alert to increase her territory and expand her colonial commerce. It will not be deemed strange, therefore, that England has responded to the appeal contained in the letter—the very latest information received—from Emin Bey, in which there is not a shred of evidence to show that he is in peril, but, on the contrary, that he is in perfect safety. As will be seen, he seeks to sell out his kingdom. It remains to be seen whether he can deliver his goods to Mr. Stanley, who has been chosen as the chief of the pseudo relief expedition.

The following extracts from Emin Bey's letter are pertinent and comprehensive. He writes from Wadelai, July 7, 1886 :

"I have certainly some gleaming of hope that as Egypt appears to be unable to send us aid [books, arsenic, soda, and sugar are the only wants of which he complains], England may at some future day take advantage of the position in which we find ourselves to remain true to her former tradition of a humanitarian [sic] and a civilizing mission [sic].

"At the present time, when the European Powers are racing neck and neck to gain possession of districts in Africa, is it really possible that no one in England should have been enlightened enough to see how easy it would be to occupy the whole of our province, and this, too, without any cost? . . . I am glad to be able to tell you that the province is in complete safety and order."

This letter was addressed to Dr. Felkin, and was read before the Scottish Geographical Society. It reads as if it had been inspired in the British Foreign office, and of itself is an absolute refutation of the stories told of Emin's peril.

Mr. Stanley was in New York when this remarkable appeal to

England from a loyal (?) Egyptian officer was brought to the attention of Her British Majesty's government. He suddenly announced that he had received a dispatch from His Majesty King Leopold recalling him to Belgium. The following morning the New York *Herald* promptly denied this assertion in a cable from Brussels. It seems a fact, however, that Stanley was telegraphed to go to London, ostensibly by a Mr. MacKinnon, a wealthy Scotchman, who offered to contribute £20,000 for the relief of Emin. That the hand of the government was in the transaction was only too apparent, for at the same time the English authorities in Egypt caused Emin to be raised to the rank of Pacha by the Egyptian government, and subscribed out of the *Egyptian treasury* £10,000 for the relief of an Egyptian officer, who in fact had proposed to turn over his government to Great Britain !

In Egypt they are accustomed to just such surprises. In truth, it was only a repetition of the Soudan comedy, in which Gordon was permitted to return to Khartoum, and to take out of the treasury £40,000, plus £60,000, afterward sent him, for no other purpose as avowed than to surrender the country to a horde of savages, with whom England, at that moment, for her own selfish interests, was pleased to treat, and grace with the polite appellation of "ancestral sultans." It was an easier matter to acquire the Soudan, wrested from a Mahdi, than from Egypt, which still presents some difficulties to an absolute annexation. The Rev. A. P. Ashe, a returned missionary from Uganda, has recently complained that the case of Dr. Mackay, who has been held a prisoner for some time, with several other priests, by King M'wanga, has not received the notice that it merits. He says :

" When I first learned of a relief expedition for Emin I thought that Mr. Stanley would leave no stone unturned to rescue Dr. Mackay. When I considered that it was to relieve an Egyptian Pacha it never occurred to me for a moment that those Englishmen who were so anxious for the safety of the Egyptians would not have been much more anxious still for the safety of an English missionary, I made a mistake. I spoke to Mr. Stanley, he said : ' When I went to look for Livingstone I was asked to do it ; when I crossed Africa I was asked to do it ; you come to me and talk about this Englishman, but if I had been asked to rescue him, I might have considered it.' At the same time Mr. Stanley mentioned a very large sum of money which would have been necessary to enable him to negotiate successfully with the king."

The Rev. Mr. Ashe does not seem to know that which Emin's letter clearly announces, namely, that Emin has a political value

which neither the missionary, a prisoner, nor the murdered Han-nington possesses. He does know, however, that money has no *cours* in Uganda ; it is an unknown quantity there, and the hint that a large sum was necessary, etc., leaves Father Ashe to only one conclusion, and hence his disgust.

In the interval of Mr. Stanley's departure from London it is curious to note what was transpiring at Zanzibar, where a German fleet had assembled, ostensibly to demand reparation and punishment for the murder of one of their subjects at Kismayu—in reality to give strength and comfort to the German East African Colonization Society, already become a menace to British commerce on the coast. Dr. Junker arrived from Central Africa on the 4th of December, when he reported his friend Emin as in perfect health and safety. On the 21st, seventeen days later, frequent dispatches signed Junker urged the immediate sending of an expedition to the relief of Emin, and this, too, it will be understood, without any other basis than the information already possessed. Wherefore this sudden metamorphosis ? Dr. Junker alone can explain. It is a mere supposition that Sir John Kirk brought about the revolution in Dr. Junker's mind about the condition of Emin. However this may be, Stanley has assumed to patronize Dr. Junker in a manner which is made the subject of comment by the *Saturday Review*, which says :

" There is at least one person who may be expected to read Mr. Stanley's letter to the Chairman of the Emin Pacha Relief Fund Committee with mixed feelings. He is Dr. Junker. If the doctor is one of those wise men who are indifferent to condescension and who know how to assent with solemn leer at the proper time, he will probably be in the main amused by the first dispatch of the great explorer. In any case it is nice to be told that you are ' amiable, frank, modest,' and not the less when it is by an authority who has been accused of a slight deficiency in one at least of these virtues. On the other hand there are people, very human and deserving to be sympathized with, who do not covet condescension. To one of them it would be as the sudden enduing of a hair-shirt to read in the press—not in one paper, but in all—they are ' plodding and painstaking' creatures, that as Mr. Stanley looked upon them he saw ' the patient honest man doing his best with all the faculties Nature gave him and education ripened for him.' To see yourself described as the ' honest Junker trudging patiently with his long caravan, making music with his accordion to the wandering tribes of the Welle-Makwa Valley, and collecting valuable facts for civilized mankind ' would be trying to certain temperaments.

" To feel yourself taken up in the palm of Mr. Stanley's hand, like Napoleon in Gillroy's caricature, and measured and weighed, and called painstaking, plodding, honest (a most insulting adjective, which, in our opinion, would justify a challenge), long-haired and quaint, might have roused the wrath of some African

travelers. What the conduct of Bruce would have been under the provocation we can guess. Probably Dr. Junker is a wiser man than the fiery Bruce, and has the sense of humor, and that imperturbable pride which is the best of all defenses against impertinence. He will doubtless laugh, and not as much as try to disturb that sense of his own greatness which caused Mr. Stanley's bosom's lord to sit lightly on his throne."

Who is Emin Pacha, and how is it that he is an Egyptian Governor of the Central African Provinces annexed to Egypt in 1874?

In 1875 Hans Schnitzler, an Austrian subject, born in Moravia, Silesia, Austria, in 1839, having studied in the medical institutes of Paris, Vienna, and Berlin, and possessing decided tastes for botany, geology, and anthropology, made his way from a port on the Red Sea to Khartoum.

General Gordon, then Governor General, for some unaccountable reason had a great aversion to Austrians, and this was particularly manifested in the case of both the Voyager Marno and Consul Hanzell. Dr. Schnitzler, notwithstanding this fact, succeeded in overcoming Gordon's dislike and entered the Egyptian Soudan service as a surgeon. Later, Gordon sent him up to the post of Fatiko as *mudir*, and it was there, in 1877, that Hakim Schnitzler abjured the Christian religion and adopted that of Mehemet, assuming from that moment the Arabic title of *Hakim Effendi Emin*, literally, *the faithful doctor*.

Neither Dr. Felkin nor Dr. Ashe seem to have either the will or the courage to declare that the Doctor had changed his faith, although the fact must be perfectly well known to them both. It tends to destroy somewhat the romantic interest which has been awakened in the fate of Emin in the Christian world; but at the same time it is the surest gage that he is not, and never has been, in peril. Emin was shortly afterward promoted by Gordon to the rank of Bey and sent to Uganda as Governor, where, at the Court with King and courtiers, all of whom were subject to Moslem association, he has acquired much influence. Emin's apostasy is a blessing in disguise for Dr. Mackay, and the other priests held by the bloodthirsty M'wanga doubtless owe their lives to the friendly protection of Emin Pacha, who is known and respected as a faithful follower of Islam among the Moslem courtiers and counsellors of the King. When General Gordon retired from the command of the government of the Equatorial Provinces in 1879, he left Emin Bey as Governor, with headquarters at Lado, near Gondocoro. With a knowledge of the storm of insurrection which

was gathering in the Soudan, Emin went down to Khartoum in April, 1882, to confer with Raouf Pacha, then Governor-General, as to the best means to avert it. Raouf was an insolent half-breed, whose chief characteristic was his dense ignorance, vanity, and incapacity. He was surrounded with such men as Geigler, as the type of officials promoted by Gordon in a spirit of ridicule, but who contributed largely by their abuse of power to the insurrection which has ended in ruin and disaster. Neither Raouf nor his counsellors would listen to the intelligent warnings of Emin, but he was told to return to his provinces and mind his own business. Since then—June, 1882,—until a few months ago, no word has come from Emin. The stories told of his battles with the Mahdi's people are apochryphal, for it is not at all clear that the insurgents have ever been within hundreds of miles of Emin's camp at Lado, where we know he now is with some four thousand black regulars well armed with Remingtons, and several thousand irregulars.

General Gordon, it is well remembered, returned to the Soudan, and entered Khartoum on his Quixotic mission on the 18th of February, 1884. The 26th of January, 1885, Khartoum fell, or was evacuated, the mystery of which has still defied all attempts at discovery. General Gordon's journals, in Khartoum, have been published, and there is nothing about Emin. And yet we are told that Gordon's steamers foraged along the Bahr-el-Abiad, the navigation of which was uninterrupted from Khartoum, and along which it had been an easy matter, down to the period when the Mahdi invested the city, to have sent a steamer to Emin, who, on his part, might easily have used his steamers, plying between stations south of Lado to Wadelai, to have gone to the rescue of Gordon. If not by the river, Emin could have taken the land route, which the writer discovered in 1874, when reconnoitring the river Saubat, and by which, during the dry season, there was communication between Bor, near Gondocoro, the Saubat, and thence to Khartoum. What mystery attaches to Gordon's silence about Emin, whom he knew to be established with his garrison at Lado?

What is the meaning of Emin's inertia during all the months when Gordon in Khartoum was holding at bay the rebel forces?

Was there a feud between Emin and Gordon? Was it the old hatred of the Austrian which had broken out anew and impelled Gordon to remain in Khartoum rather than seek the safety

which he was sure of finding at Lado? Was this the reason that Emin did not go to the relief of Gordon?

Emin has invited England to occupy the Equatorial Provinces which have been won by Egypt at the cost of much suffering and many sacrifices. England, in response, has sent Stanley. If Emin returns it is possible that he may lift the veil of mystery which still envelops the siege and fall of Khartoum, and add, perhaps, some positive information as yet wanting as to the fate of the eccentric but gallant Gordon.

C. CHAILLE-LONG.